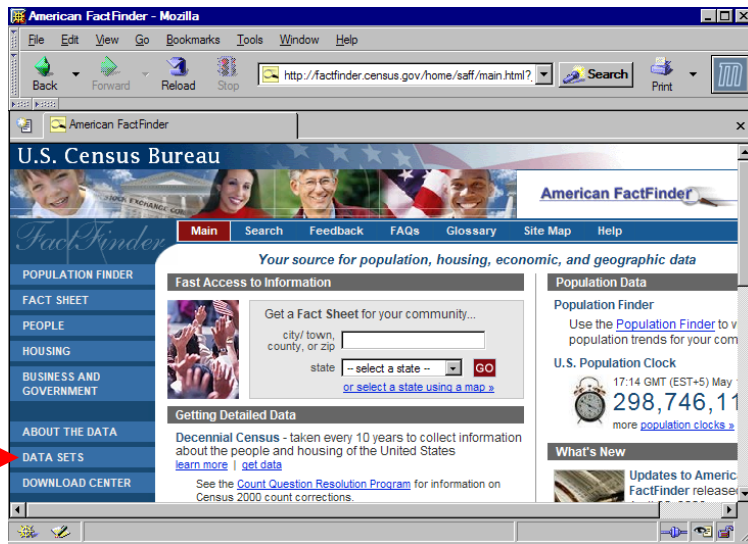


How to Use American Factfinder to Obtain Census Data about Cambridge, Massachusetts

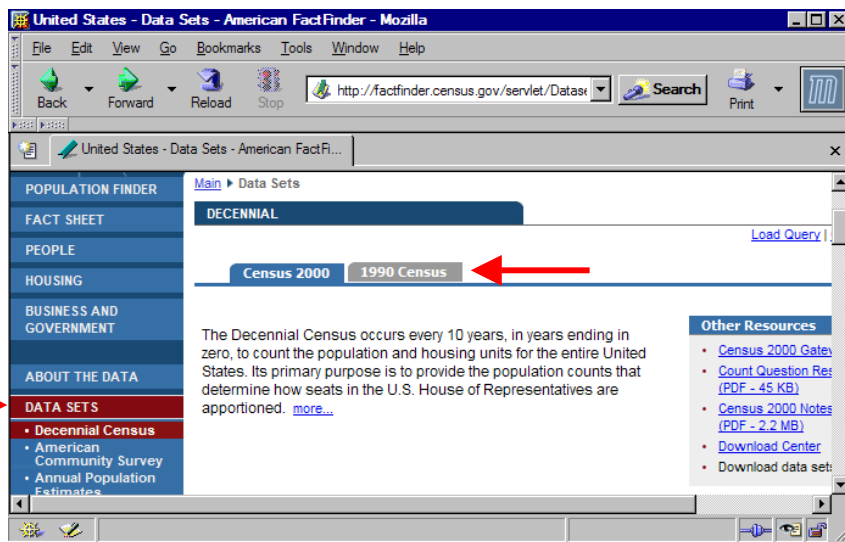
The U. S. Census Bureau uses the American Factfinder website to distribute a variety of data sets over the internet. These data sets include results from the 1990 Decennial Census, the 2000 Decennial Census and both the 1997 and 2002 Economic Census.

American Factfinder is at: http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

To obtain decennial data about Cambridge navigate to the Data Sets page from the home page:

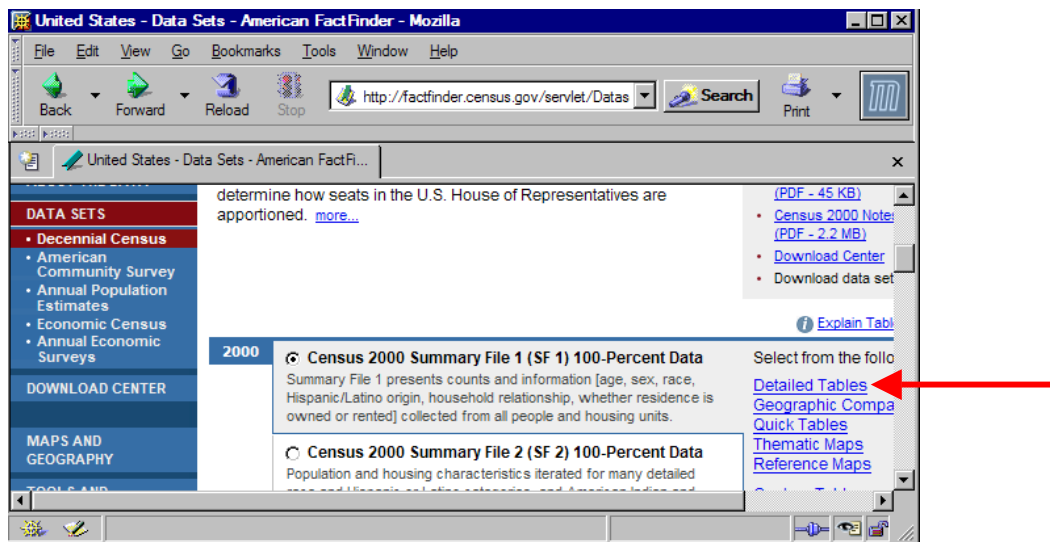


This step takes you to the 2000 Decennial Census data set page by default. If you wish to work with another data set either select the 1990 Census tab or pick another data set from the left hand side of the page.

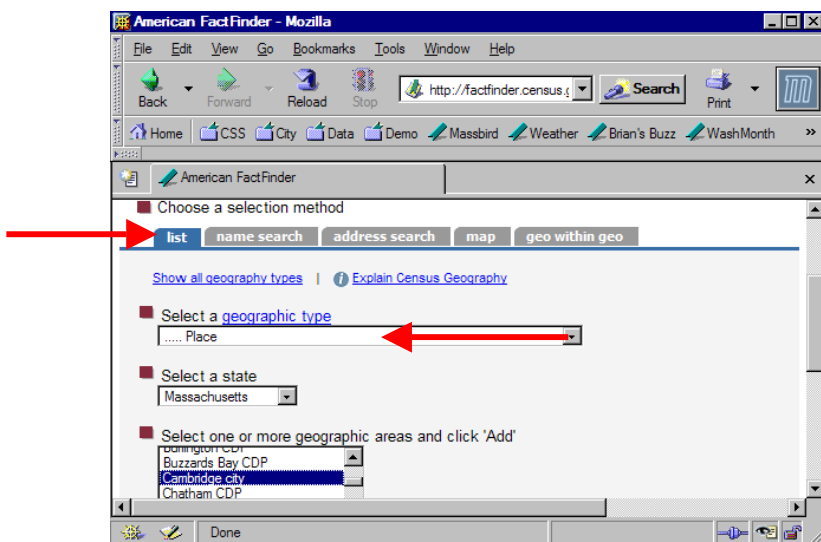


If you pick a decennial census data set you must next select a data file. Most people want to use either the basic short form data files (SF1 from 2000, STF1 from 1990) or long form data files (SF3 from 2000, STF3 from 1990). The short form data files are drawn from 100% of the population. Long form data files are drawn from a 1:6 sample of the population. Additional 2000 Decennial Census data files (SF2 for short form and SF4 for long form) detail characteristics for many race and Hispanic subcategories.

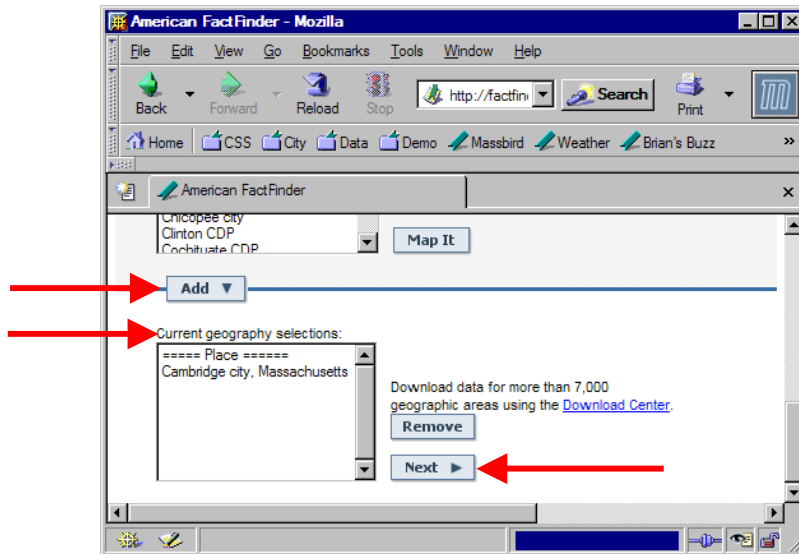
After choosing a data file, select “Detailed Tables” from the right hand side of the page.



Use the “List” tab on next page to select the level of geography of interest. You will need to make a series of choices to pick specific locations. You can select areas as small as individual census blocks for SF1 or SF2 data or census blockgroups for SF3 or SF4 data. If you want information about Cambridge as a whole chose “Place” as the “geographic type”. To obtain data about Cambridge census tracts, blockgroups or blocks chose the appropriate “geographic type”. Cambridge census tracts range from 3521 to 3550 in Middlesex County. You can obtain data for two or more geographies at once.



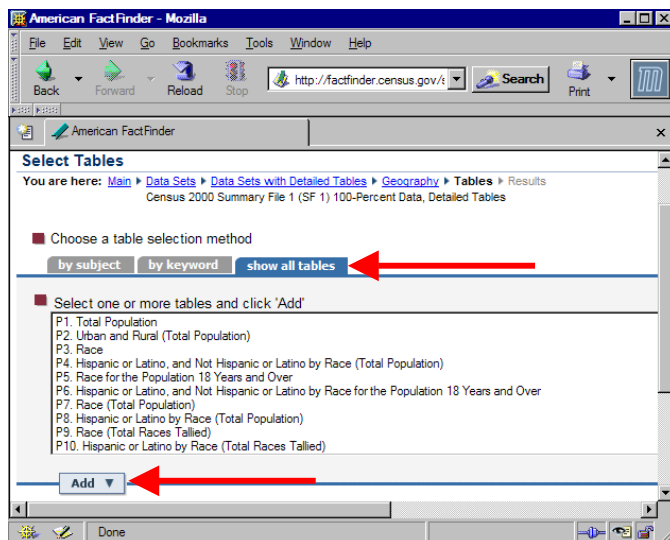
Once you locate your area of interest use the “Add” button to place this location in your current geography selections, then chose “Next”.



This last step takes you to the Tables page, where you select specific data tables for review.

There are three methods for selecting tables:

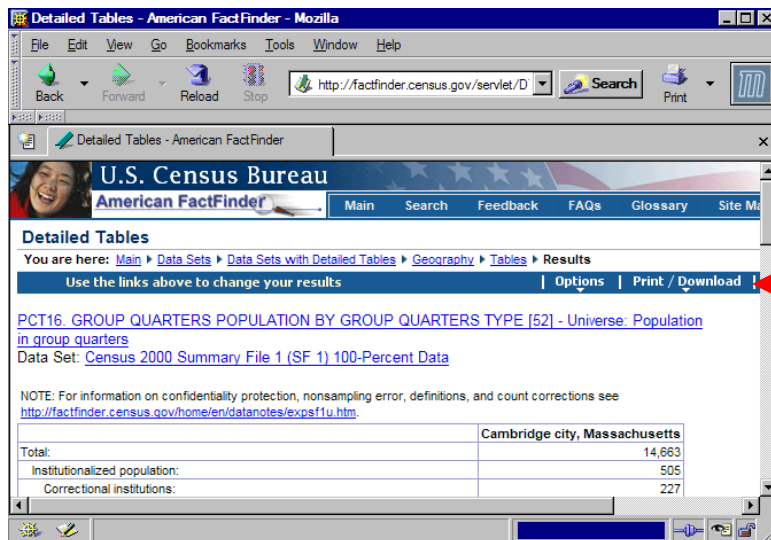
1. Picking from the list of all tables;
2. Searching by keyword; and
3. Searching by topic.



Tables with population related data start with a “P”. Table with housing related data start with an “H”. Both SF1 and SF3 include certain tables for the population as a whole and for specific race and/or Hispanic subgroups. Tables that include only a subset of the

population include the table number for the entire population followed by a letter from A through I. Both data files also include tables that only go down to the census tract level; these are labeled with either “PCT” or “HCT”.

Use the “Add” button to add tables to your current table selection. Once you have selected all the tables you want to review, use the “Show Result” button on the far right hand side of the page to generate them.



If you choose, you can either print the tables or download the data for further analysis. To do so use the “Print/Download” button near the top of the page.

When downloading data to Microsoft Excel use either the comma delimited (.csv) or Microsoft Excel (.xls) options. CSV files are sometimes easier to use as a starting point for analysis. For database programs you can use either CSV or tab delimited (.lst) files. You can also download compressed Microsoft Excel or comma delimited files in .zip format.

